

Appl. No. 10/057,652
Reply to Office Action of October 5, 2004

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The claims remain rejected over Sekiguchi USP 6,485,812 and over Sunderrajan USP 6,635,319 or USP 6,347,866. The Examiner states that while particles may lose their form during calendaring, she relies on the stabile intermediate. Reconsideration is requested.

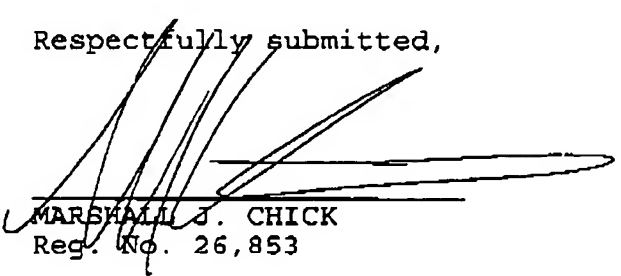
The claims are amended to include a binder as a separate element (e.g. see page 29) from the thermoplastic particles, which have a different function.

Latex disclosed in Sekiguchi and polymer particles in the two Sunderrajan U.S. patents operate as a binder. Therefore they do not correspond to thermoplastic particles of the present invention.

In view of the above, it is submitted that the present invention is not shown or suggested by the cited art. Withdrawal of the rejections and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

Frishauf, Holtz, Goodman
& Chick, P.C.
767 Third Ave., 25th Floor
New York, NY 10017-2023
Tel. No. (212) 319-4900
Fax No.: (212) 319-5101
MJC/ld

Respectfully submitted,



MARSHALL J. CHICK
Reg. No. 26,853